

From what has been stated, the suggestion may be inferred that it would seemingly be in order, when the glad hand of fellowship is extended to returning military colleagues, to give the word greetings due expression in deed as well, by offering office facility participation whenever circumstances may indicate such need and action.

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Agitation for Changes in Medical Practice Continues.—In the year now beginning, the medical profession will be confronted with many readjustment problems. The world is changing, social and other relationships of the times are changing, and some of the procedures in medical practice are also undergoing change.

In their devotion to practice of the healing art, physicians should not become so engrossed in service to sick individuals or groups of patients in hospitals, to permit themselves to ignore the agitation that is in evidence throughout the land; the purpose of which is to bring into being through what are little less than revolutionary procedures, certain changes in medical practice that could seriously affect the capacity of the medical profession to render a high quality of healing art service.

High standards in medical care can only be maintained if, in addition to excellent work by each individual physician, group spirit and loyalty to the guild to promote the good and advancement of the whole, also prevail.

For the year 1946, as in years past, CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE again extends greetings and good wishes to all members of the California Medical Association.

May the coming year measure up to our highest hopes!

LOS ANGELES COUNTY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION WILL CELEBRATE THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS FOUNDING ON JANUARY 31, 1946

The Founders: With Special Reference to Doctors John S. Griffin and Joseph P. Widney.—Seventy-five years ago, on the evening of January 31, 1871, seven physicians resident in Los Angeles met and organized the Los Angeles County Medical Association. Those present were Doctors John S. Griffin, Henry S. Orme, Joseph P. Widney, William F. Edgar, R. T. Hayes, L. L. Dorr, and T. H. Rose. The organization meeting was held in the offices of Doctors Griffin and Widney.

The first president of the Los Angeles County Medical Association was John Strother Griffin, M.D.,* graduate of the University of Pennsylvania in 1837, assistant surgeon in the United States Army, acting in that capacity in the journey starting in Santa Fe, New Mexico, on September 25, 1846, when General Kearney's "Army of the West" made its trek into California by way of San Diego to take possession of California under orders from the United States Government.

* For other reference to Dr. John S. Griffin, see CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, February, 1944, p. 50.

Doctor Griffin's death in Los Angeles, at age 82, took place in 1898.

Doctor Griffin's associate, Joseph Pomeroy Widney, A.M., LL.D.** received his M.D. degree from Toland Medical School of San Francisco (now University of California), class of 1866. His death occurred on July 4, 1938, at age 97. In 1885, Doctor Widney was the prime mover in the establishment of the College of Medicine of the University of Southern California, becoming president of that University in the financial depression of the nineties, preventing foreclosure on its properties through advancement of his personal securities. Like his associate, he was also an assistant surgeon in the United States Army.

In their time, others of the founders of the Los Angeles County Medical Association also held prominent places in the medical profession.

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Some High-Spots in the Career of the Los Angeles County Medical Association.—Today, the county medical society established in 1871, at a time in California's history, when Los Angeles was grouped with smaller pueblos or municipalities, has developed until now in a county having a population of more than 3,500,000 persons, it has a membership in excess of 3,500 physicians. This membership total makes this county unit one of the six largest county medical societies of the United States. In membership numbers, it is exceeded in number by only seven of the forty constituent state medical associations of the A.M.A.!

Concerning some of its activities, much could be stated of this important county medical society that may be said to be setting a pace for many county and state medical organizations.

In addition to its valuable auditorium and library buildings at Westlake Avenue and Wilshire Boulevard, owned debt free, it possesses vested interests in other income producing property, and in its latest *Bulletin* appear drawings for large additions to its present housing facilities. Its plans and programs for benevolence and postwar funds, group accident coverage, public health lectures, conjoint meetings on medico-legal medicine, radio broadcasts, indoctrination courses for applicants to membership, and its County *Bulletin*,—probably the largest county medical publication in the United States,—are among activities that may be mentioned, to indicate the alertness and up-and-doing qualities of the personnel of the Los Angeles County Medical Association.

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Anniversary Celebration Will be on Thursday Evening, January 31, 1946.—The anniversary celebration of its founding 75 years ago, will be held on the evening of Thursday, January 31, 1946, the ceremonies to be carried on in the Bowl of the Biltmore Hotel. The Association has generously extended to C.M.A. ex-presidents and members of the Council of the California Medi-

** References to Dr. Joseph P. Widney in CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, appear in issues of April, 1936, p. 292; May, 1936, p. 396; June, 1937, p. 398; August, 1938, pp. 106 and 161.

cal Association an invitation to be guests on this occasion.

On that evening, an historical edition of the *Bulletin* of the Los Angeles County Medical Association of some 200 or more pages, will be distributed.

For this happy occasion, other County Medical Societies and members of the California Medical Association resident in those counties, extend to members of the Los Angeles County Medical Association, felicitations of the day, congratulations on work achieved, and best wishes for the future.

The California Medical Association is proud of its largest county medical unit.

CALIFORNIA MEDICAL ASSOCIATION WILL HOLD ITS 75TH ANNUAL SESSION IN LOS ANGELES, MAY 7-8-9-10, 1946

Streamlined Sessions are of the Past: A Four-Day C.M.A. Session will be held at Los Angeles in 1946.—During the last several years, while World War II was on, it has been necessary to hold two-day, streamlined annual sessions of the California Medical Association.

Absence of many C.M.A. members who were in active military service, additional responsibilities and work that fell on colleagues who continued in civilian practice, over-filled meeting places in major hotels (especially Hotel Del Monte taken over by the Navy), transportation and other complications, all help explain the reason for the recent two-day, instead of the four-day annual sessions that were the custom in prior years.

With World War II now somewhat of the past, the C.M.A. Council in October, optimistically promulgated for the year 1946 a four-day session, to commence on Tuesday, May 7, and to carry through Friday, May 10.

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Wartime Medical Meetings.—Even with World War II drawbacks, many medical meetings have been held by county medical societies and affiliated groups,—of which those under the auspices of the "Wartime Graduate Medical Meeting" committee have been conspicuous examples. The interesting programs of the Wartime Committee have appeared in succeeding issues of the *OFFICIAL JOURNAL* and even yet should have suggestive value to program committees of county medical societies.

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Possible Essayists are Requested to Cooperate.—This present reference to the C.M.A. annual session to be held in May next at Los Angeles aims to call the attention of component county societies and their members, not only to the meeting—from the standpoint of possible attendance, but to urge in particular, that all members who may be in position to offer possible papers for consideration, should promptly communicate with the C.M.A. Committee on Scientific Work (of which the Association Secretary

at 450 Sutter, San Francisco, is chairman), or with the secretary of the scientific section in which the proposed paper would probably be given place. (For list of Section Officers, see in current CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE issue, on adv. page 4.)

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Outline of Program for this Year's 75th Annual Session.—In spite of existing conditions, it is hoped to present in May next, a substantial and up-to-date survey of topics on scientific and organized medicine.

The first meeting on Tuesday morning, May 7, will stress problems related to Organized Medicine of which, in California, there are many.

After which, the major groups on General Medicine and General Surgery will then carry on as in previous years. The remaining eleven scientific sections (Anesthesiology, Dermatology and Syphilology, Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat, Industrial Medicine and Surgery, Neuropsychiatry, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Pathology and Bacteriology, Pediatrics, Public Health, Radiology, and Urology) will each hold one, two or three meetings, depending in part upon the perseverance of the respective Section Officers, and also on the extent to which specialist physicians respond to the appeals of Section Officers for full coöperation.

Commercial or technical exhibits will again be given opportunity for their displays, the income therefrom covering a considerable portion of the convention expense (hotels throughout the nation propose in the future to institute the plan of charging for use of meeting rooms, on basis of a certain sum per day, for each chair required!).

In the Section on General Medicine, the Clinical-Pathological Conference will have suitable place; and panel discussions and joint meetings are under consideration by several sections.

Those very special features—the study groups coöperating with the Cancer Commission, that formerly met the day before the regular session began; namely, Cancer Symposium, Pathologic-Microscopy and Diagnosis, X-ray Diagnosis—will also be in operation, if present plans do not miscarry.

So also as regards programs and conferences of affiliated organizations and bodies—such as California Heart Association, Western Association of Industrial Physicians and Surgeons, California State Board of Public Health,—these, too, plan to hold meetings at which suitable programs will be presented and conferences held.

The Woman's Auxiliary to the California Medical Association will again take up its active work, and make plans for a militant, constructive program in the days ahead.

The C.M.A. Council will hold its daily meetings, and the House of Delegates without doubt, in these troublous times, will have its full quota of resolutions presented not only for consideration, but for policy determination.

Transportation and hotel accommodation diffi-